Development' published in July, 2001 has suggested that in order to achieve 1/3rd area under forest/tree cover, 42.27 million hectare is proposed to be covered under greening programme in 10-year period. Details are as under:

(i) 15 million ha. of degraded forest land to be covered under Joint Forest Management (JFM)

(ii) 10 million hectare of irrigated area to be covered under commercial agro-forestry.

(iii) 18 million hectare of rainfed area to be covered under subsistence agriculture.

(b) This Ministry is not aware of any organization that has launched any programme for development of laterite soil in Chhattisgarh creating mass employment opportunities.

(c) Question does not arise.

Funds for pucca roads by NABARD

2489. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the roads in rural areas in the country that have been made pucca roads with the help of funds by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) the total number of pucca roads to be undertaken by NABARD's funds during the current year;

(c) whether Government propose to link unconnected villages in Tamil Nadu with pucca roads; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time likely to be taken to fulfil this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) "Rural roads" is a State subject. The Ministry of Rural Development implements Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in all States with the objective of providing connectivity to all rural Habitations of designated size. Any kind of assistance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has not been obtained for this programme.

The NABARAD has reported that it has sanctioned 5046 road projects in 18 States during the year 2004-05 under the Scheme of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).

(c) and (d) The PMGSY envisages to provide connectivity to all Unconnected Habitations with a population more than 500 persons and all Unconnected Habitations with population 250 persons and above in Tribal (Schedule V) areas in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu, through good All weather road, by the end of the Tenth Plan. According to reports received from the State Government, all eligible Habitations, except in Tribal (Schedule V) areas, which are presently feasible, have already been covered.

Increasing allocation under ARWSP to Karnataka

2490. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested for increase of allocation under the Centrally sponsored ARWSP, 2004-05 and additional funds and pending instalments under Swajaldhara programme; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government had requested for increase in ARWSP allocation from Rs. 74.18 crore to Rs. 141.71 crore and additional funds of Rs. 33.54 crore under Swajaldhara. The State Government was allocated an additional amount of Rs. 2.62 crore under Swajaldhara scheme but no additional funds could be allocated under ARWSP for want of savings towards the end of the year. No proposal for release of the second instalment under Swajaldhara scheme received from the State Government is pending.

Indira Awas Yojana in Gujarat

2491. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent district-wise, year-wise and number of persons benefited under the Indira Awas Yojana in Gujarat during the last two years;